

Remarks

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 2-4 and 13-17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitation of the base and intervening claims. Applicants have amended the present claim listing accordingly and believe that all of the pending claims are therefore now allowable. Applicant also respectfully requests that the process claims (claims 5-11) be rejoined. The Examiner hereby is authorized to amend claim 5 to incorporate the limitations of claim 6, and to cancel claim 6, if such amendments would be necessary to rejoin the process claims.

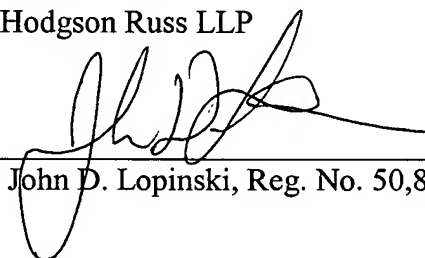
Conclusion

Based on the arguments and amendments presented herein, Applicants believe all the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to allow all the claims. Applicant requests a three-month extension of time to file this response. A check for the required fee is enclosed. Please charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 08-2442.

Respectfully submitted,

Hodgson Russ LLP

By



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